VITAL STATISTICS OF QUEENSLAND, SEPTEMBER QUARTER, 1956.

Births (see Table 1).

The number of births registered in the September quarter of 1956 was about normal, although the total of 8,116 was 279 less than the very high number recorded for the corresponding quarter of 1955. The birth rate was 23.7 per 1,000 population compared with an average of 23.8 for the three September quarters, 1952 to 1954, and 25.0 in the September quarter of 1955. The 8,116 births included 4,133 males and 3,983 females, giving a masculinity rate of 103.8 males per 100 females, which was slightly below the normal rate of 105.

Babies born to mothers whose usual place of residence was Brisbane numbered 2,789, or 34.4 per cent. of all births, which is about normal. Brisbane has about 38 per cent. of the State total population.

Natural increase (excess of births over deaths) was 4,374 for the quarter, equivalent to an annual rate of 1.3 per cent. of the population.

There were 503 ex-nuptial births during the quarter, equal to 6.2 per cent. of all births registered. During the quarter 84 children were legitimated.

Multiple births included 84 sets of twins, comprising 79 male and 87 female live births and 2 still births, and one set of triplets, comprising 2 males and 1 female, all live born.

Marriages (see Table 2).

Marriages during the quarter numbered 2,194 - 138 less than in the corresponding quarter of 1955. The marriage rate was 6.4 per 1,000 population, compared with 6.9 in the same quarter of the previous year. Marriages during the third quarter are normally lower than in other quarters but the rate this quarter was the lowest in any quarter in post-war years, well below the average of 7.1 recorded in the third quarters in the years 1950 to 1955, and slightly below the average of 6.8 for the third quarters, 1930 to 1935. The low marriage rate of the early thirties was due to marriages being delayed through economic depression, whereas the present low rate is the normal sequel to the high rates of the post-war years. This is shown by the high proportion of very young people among the recent marriages, the numbers of minors married in the September quarter of 1956 being 241 males and 848 females, equivalent to 11.0 and 38.7 per cent. respectively of all the bridegrooms and brides. In 1930 to 1935, the proportions of minors were only 4.6 and 25.3 per cent. of the bridegrooms and brides.

Deaths (see Tables 1 and 3).

Deaths registered during the quarter totalled 3,742, consisting of 2,158 males and 1,584 females, an increase of 370 compared with the corresponding total for the previous year. The equivalent annual death rate of 10.9 per 1,000 population was slightly above normal for the third quarter of the year.

As usual, heart disease was the greatest cause of deaths, accounting for 1,135 (or 30 per cent. of the total). Vascular lesions affecting the central nervous system caused 493 deaths (13 per cent.), and malignant neoplasms 420 deaths (11 per cent.). The proportions of deaths from these principal causes were all about the same as in the September quarter of 1955.

Infantile Mortality (see Tables 1 and 4).

The infantile mortality rate of 20.0 per 1,000 live births was satisfactory following the somewhat higher rates in the first and second quarters of 1956. This rate equals that for the second quarter of 1955 and is the second lowest rate ever recorded.

Total infantile deaths in the quarter numbered 162, of whom 89 were males and 73 were females. Of these deaths, 119 (68 males and 51 females), representing a normal 73 per cent., occurred during the first four weeks after birth.

Compared with the September quarter of 1955, the infantile mortality rate in Brisbane remained steady at 19 per 1,000 live births, whilst that for the extra-metropolitan sub-tropical area fell from 22 to 19. In the tropical area, however, the rate increased from 19 to 23. Taking the State as a whole, deaths from congenital malformations (38) and pneumonia (4 weeks and over) (20) were above normal numbers, but immaturity (36), birth injuries (20), and post-natal asphyxia and atelectasis (8) were all well below normal.

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GOVERNMENT STATISTICIAN.

BRISBANE.
1st March, 1957.

Table 1 - Births and Deaths.

Usual Place of Residence.	Births.		All Deaths.		Deaths Under One Year.	
	Third Quarter.		Third Quarter.		Third Quarter.	
	1955.	1956.	1955.	1956.	1955.	1956.
Metropolitan -						
City	295	328	297	313	9	7
North Side Inner Suburbs ..	361	337	265	294	5	5
North Side Outer Suburbs ..	671	623	221	250	9	13
Western Suburbs	294	299	126	143	4	5
South Side Inner Suburbs ..	190	173	92	121	4	6
South Side Outer Suburbs ..	592	555	187	262	10	7
Bayside	274	227	218	209	8	7
Rural	265	247	78	58	8	2
Total Metropolitan	2,942	2,789	1,484	1,650	57	52
Sub-Tropical (Non-Metropolitan) -						
Bundaberg	146	145	45	78	-	1
Gympie	74	60	32	31	-	-
Ipswich	240	226	101	127	7	5
Maryborough	119	108	49	61	4	1
Toowoomba	276	256	144	187	6	5
Warwick	56	50	31	30	-	4
Total Sub-Tropical Cities ..	911	845	402	514	17	16
Total Sub-Tropical Towns ..	415	413	155	185	9	13
Total Sub-Tropical Shires ..	2,088	2,062	632	660	48	34
Total Sub-Tropical (Non-Metropolitan)	3,414	3,320	1,189	1,359	74	63
Tropical -						
Cairns	139	132	49	48	3	6
Charters Towers	37	40	48	55	-	-
Mackay	92	101	47	48	6	3
Rockhampton	261	251	131	122	4	2
Townsville	242	266	115	111	5	4
Total Tropical Cities ..	771	790	390	384	18	15
Total Tropical Towns	78	73	18	28	2	4
Total Tropical Shires	1,190	1,144	291	321	18	28
Total Tropical	2,039	2,007	699	733	38	47
Total Occurring in Queensland	8,395	8,116	3,372	3,742	169	162

	Birth Rate.[a]		Death Rate.[a]		Infantile Mortality Rate.[b]	
Metropolitan-						
City	17.0	19.4	17.2	18.5	31	21
North Side Inner Suburbs ..	19.3	18.1	14.1	15.8	14	15
North Side Outer Suburbs ..	25.4	22.6	8.4	9.1	13	21
Western Suburbs	24.4	23.5	10.5	11.2	14	17
South Side Inner Suburbs ..	21.7	19.5	10.5	15.7	21	35
South Side Outer Suburbs ..	23.1	21.0	7.3	9.9	17	13
Bayside	29.9	23.9	23.8c	22.0c	29	31
Rural	24.8	22.0	7.3	5.2	30	8
Total Metropolitan	22.9	21.1	11.5	12.5	19	19
Sub-Tropical (Non-Metropolitan)-						
Cities	25.6	23.3	11.3	14.2	19	19
Towns	26.9	26.0	10.0	11.6	22	31
Shires	26.3	25.7	8.0	8.2	23	16
Total Sub-Tropical (Non-Metropolitan)	26.2	25.1	9.1	10.3	22	19
Tropical -						
Cities	24.5	24.6	12.4	12.0	23	19
Towns and Shires	28.2	26.6	6.9	7.6	16	26
Total Tropical	26.7	25.8	9.1	9.4	19	23
Total Queensland ..	25.0	23.7	10.0	10.9	20.1	20.0

For notes a to c, see page 3.

Table 2 - Marriages.

Place of Celebration.	Marriages.		Minors Married.		
	Third Quarter.		Third Quarter, 1956.		
	1955.	1956.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Metropolitan	1,045	954	90	323	413
Sub-Tropical (Non-Metropolitan)-					
Bundaberg	54	52	4	20	24
Gympie	42	18	1	6	7
Ipswich	78	69	14	26	40
Maryborough	49	46	2	12	14
Toowoomba	90	102	12	39	51
Warwick	28	20	2	14	16
Total Sub-Tropical Cities ..	341	307	35	117	152
Other Sub-Tropical	397	417	61	223	284
Total Sub-Tropical (Non-Metropolitan)	738	724	96	340	436
Tropical -					
Cairns	62	69	9	26	35
Charters Towers	10	14	1	6	7
Mackay	53	57	6	20	26
Rockhampton	119	108	10	32	42
Townsville	108	89	9	20	29
Total Tropical Cities ..	352	337	35	104	139
Other Tropical	197	179	20	81	101
Total Tropical	549	516	55	185	240
Total Queensland	2,332	2,194	241	848	1,089
	Marriage Rate.[a]				
Metropolitan	8.1	7.2			
Sub-Tropical (Non-Metropolitan)-					
Cities	9.6	8.5			
Total	5.7	5.5			
Tropical -					
Cities	11.2	10.5			
Total	7.2	6.6			
Total Queensland	6.9	6.4			

a Equivalent annual rate per 1,000 population.
b Rate per 1,000 live births.
c The high rate is due to the location of three homes for aged persons in this district.

Table 3 - Causes of Deaths.

lass.	Cause of Death (International List, 1948 Revision).	3rd Quarter.		Increase or Decrease.	Nine Months Ended Sept.		Increase or Decrease.
		1955.	1956.		1955.	1956.	
1	Infective and Parasitic Diseases ..	72	53	-19	201	159	-42
2	Neoplasms	425	432	+7	1,218	1,293	+75
3	Allergic, Endocrine System, Metabolic, and Nutritional Diseases	85	80	-5	194	202	+8
4	Diseases of the Blood and Blood-forming Organs	27	18	-9	49	49	-
5	Mental, Psychoneurotic, and Personality Disorders	25	24	-1	63	66	+3
6	Diseases of the Nervous System and Sense Organs	504	548	+44	1,202	1,345	+143
7	Diseases of the Circulatory System ..	1,294	1,440	+146	3,142	3,320	+178
8	Diseases of the Respiratory System ..	240	387	+147	509	697	+188
9	Diseases of the Digestive System ..	116	115	-1	343	321	-22
10	Diseases of the Genito-urinary System ..	114	139	+25	373	364	-9
11	Complications of Pregnancy, Childbirth, and the Puerperium	7	5	-2	18	24	+6
12	Diseases of the Skin and Cellular Tissue	9	6	-3	19	23	+4
13	Diseases of the Bones and Organs of Movement	9	16	+7	33	34	+1
14	Congenital Malformations	51	58	+7	135	150	+15
15	Certain Diseases of Early Infancy ..	95	89	-6	323	341	+18
16	Senility and Ill-defined Conditions ..	48	62	+14	142	176	+34
17	Accidents, Poisonings, and Violence ..	251	270	+19	684	769	+85
	Total All Causes	3,372	3,742	+370	8,648	9,333	+685
	Tuberculosis of Respiratory System[a] ..	43	19	-24	106	54	-52
	Malignant Neoplasms (Cancer, &c.)[b] ..	417	420	+3	1,175	1,263	+88
	Vascular Lesions affecting Central Nervous System[c]	446	493	+47	1,057	1,199	+142
	Heart Disease[d]	997	1,135	+138	2,483	2,679	+196
	Nephritis and Nephrosis[e]	60	88	+28	214	219	+5
	Accidental Deaths[f]	207	228	+21	569	644	+75

a Included in Class 1.
b Included in Class 2.
c Included in Class 6.
d Included in Class 7.
e Included in Class 10.
f Included in Class 17.

Table 4 - Causes of Deaths of Infants Under One Year.

Cause of Death (International List, 1948 Revision).	3rd Quarter.		Increase or Decrease.	Nine Months Ended Sept.		Increase or Decrease.
	1955.	1956.		1955.	1956.	
Congenital Malformations	34	38	+4	101	105	+4
Birth Injuries	25	20	-5	86	76	-10
Post-natal Asphyxia and Atelectasis	16	8	-8	58	46	-12
Immaturity	33	36	+3	118	140	+22
Pneumonia of Newborn	4	7	+3	14	10	-4
Diarrhoea and Enteritis of Newborn	-	2	+2	-	4	+4
Other Diseases of Early Infancy	17	16	-1	47	64	+17
Total Diseases of Early Infancy	129	127	-2	424	445	+21
Pneumonia (aged 4 weeks and over)	13	20	+7	28	49	+21
Diarrhoea and Enteritis (aged 4 weeks & over)	3	1	-2	12	9	-3
All Other Causes	24	14	-10	57	52	-5
Total Deaths Under One Year	169	162	-7	521	555	+34
Deaths Under Four Weeks	118	119	+1	386	404	+18